

From: [Alan D. Leveillee](#)  
To: [Stover, Michael](#)  
Subject: Powerpoint slides- summary  
Date: Tuesday, January 26, 2016 2:54:46 PM  
Attachments: [image001.png](#)  
[image002.png](#)  
[image003.png](#)

---

Hi Mike-

Please see the attached slides for your use-

Regards,  
Alan

### Initial Investigations (September- November):

- 84 Features recorded
- 78 assigned Native American origins
- 6 assigned 18<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup> century

Of the 84 features identified, 33 (39%) were subject to evaluation and verification via excavation and analyses. The selected features were those identified by NITHPO and PAL, in consultation.

Evaluation Preliminary Results (November – December) include that, of the 33 features:

- *All were considered to be purposefully dug pits & deposits -where subsequent to use their initial surfaces had been impacted and / or removed by more recent landscape changes*
- *48% were deeper than 40cm during excavation (n=16)*
- *89% contained shell (n=27)*
- *64% contained bone fragments (n=21)*
- *42% contained aboriginal ceramic fragments (n=14)*
- *89% contained lithic chipping debris (n=27)*
- *6% were formal human burials (n=2)*
- *30% had associated post molds (n=10)- including both confirmed burials*

## SOME IMPLICATIONS CONSIDERING THE TIDEWATER DRIVE RESULTS



- The area of the Mill Cove Site (as indicated **here**) is approximately **170-acres**
- The excavated trench along Tidewater Drive exposed a total area of approximately **½-acre**
- **78 pre-contact Native American features** were verified
- Projecting those results we can extrapolate a density for the site of approximately **150 features per acre (4 of which could be burials)**
- Accordingly, we can anticipate **+/- 25,000 features (650 of which could be burials)** across the Project area.
- If we speculate that between **50% and 70%** of the features across the site *have been destroyed by historic development*, a range of between **12,500 and 7,500 features can still be expected (325-195 of which could be burials).**

## Conclusions and Recommendations

The Mill Cove Archaeological Site is highly significant. It contains data that has added, and promises to continue to add, to research on pre-contact and contact period Native American village life in coastal southern New England. *It is one of only two definitive villages identified in the region to date (Salt Pond, Narragansett, being the other).*

The cultural ecology of Native American village formation and life prior to, during, and following European settlement has here to fore been entirely dependent upon written historical accounts. **The Mill Cove Site will change that.**

With temporal components dating, in part, to the King Philip's War era (1675/76) this site can also contribute to **conflict-related research on that topic.**

As the sewer project proceeds, ongoing **consultation, communication, and collaboration between all parties will be imperative.** Protocols for archaeological data recovery and related analyses need to be comprehensive And far-sighted in the light of discoveries to date.

- The EPA needs to make a *Determination of Effect* on the site relative to the undertaking
- The NITHPO needs to reach a decision regarding either preservation in place or removal and re-burial for features 23 and 38. Furthermore, NITHPO should consider whether protocols for as yet identified burial features will be determined on a case by case basis as discoveries are made, or the establishment of a Project-wide policy applicable to past and future burial discoveries for the duration of sewer construction.

Alan Leveillee, MA, RPA  
Senior Archaeologist  
[aleveillee@palinc.com](mailto:aleveillee@palinc.com)

**PAL**

Cultural Resource Management

26 Main Street  
Pawtucket, RI 02860

401.728.8780 main  
401.728.8784 fax  
401.288.6315 direct  
401.487.0861 cell  
[www.palinc.com](http://www.palinc.com)

NOTICE: This email message and any attachments are confidential. If you are not the intended recipient, please immediately reply to the sender and delete the message from your email system. Thank you.